



PRESS RELEASE

AG Gansler Secures Conviction of Allegany County Inmate *Weapon, assault charges stem from June 2011 attack in county jail*

Baltimore, MD (February 22, 2012) - Attorney General Douglas F. Gansler announced today that Torrey Lamont Love, 41, an inmate of the Allegany County Detention Center, was found guilty of one count of possession of a weapon in a place of confinement and one count of second degree assault of an inmate. Allegany County Circuit Court Judge Gary Leasure delayed sentencing until completion of a pre-sentence investigation. Each count carries a maximum penalty of 10 years incarceration.

"We're proud to work with law enforcement at every level to protect the safety of correctional officers and help keep the peace in and out of correctional institutions," said Attorney General Gansler. "Violence behind bars puts correctional officers at risk and will not be tolerated."

The charges stem from an assault that occurred on June 16, 2011 at the detention center located in Cumberland. At the time, Love was incarcerated while awaiting trial for five separate armed robberies committed in Allegany County. Love, of Frostburg, has since been convicted in separate jury trials of three armed robberies that were also prosecuted by the Office of the Attorney General.

On the day of the incident, Love was captured on surveillance video attacking Lawrence Lewis, a fellow Allegany County Detention Center inmate. The video showed Love walking down the steps of the C Block housing unit, brandishing an industrial strength utility brush, sneaking up behind Lewis and striking him several times in the back of the head. Correctional officers were able to tackle Love and separate him from the victim.

Lewis sustained a laceration to the back of the head and bruises on his shoulder and back. He was taken to the Western Maryland Medical Center and received three staples to close wounds in his head.

Attorney General Gansler thanked Assistant Attorneys General Jason Abbott and Franklyn Musgrave for their hard work in this case and for securing the three previous armed robbery convictions against Love. Also assisting in the investigation were the Allegany County Detention Center and Cumberland Police Department Detective Eric Rice of the Allegany County Combined Criminal Investigation Task Force.